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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/781,621

02/20/2004

Shigeo Konuma

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4117

22852 7590 03/16/2007

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EXAMINER

ALI, OMAR R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2109

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

03/16/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/781,621	KONUMA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Omar Abdul-Ali	2109	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This action is in response to the original filing of February 20, 2004. Claims 1-19 are pending and have been considered below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-3, 7-10, 12, and 15-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Maeda et al. (US 2002/0136563).

Claim 1: Maeda discloses an image forming device with function selecting keys and at least one shortcut comprising:

a..display section displaying initial screen for performing function selection
(column 4, lines 56-65);

b. setting screen for performing a setting input if an image forming condition, the setting screen being displayed by performing the function selection a plurality of times from the initial screen (column 5, lines 21-36);

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c. a shortcut button for displaying the setting screen is displayed on the initial screen after when the setting input of the image forming condition is performed on the setting screen (column 6, lines 46-62/Figure 8).

Claim 2: Maeda discloses an image forming device with function selecting keys and at least one shortcut as in Claim 1 above, further comprising:

a. image formation is performed by using image data, and the image forming condition is an image processing condition corresponding to the image data (column 9, lines 3-20).

Claim 3: Maeda discloses an image forming device with function selecting keys and at least one shortcut as in Claim 1 above, further comprising:

a. the image forming condition is a post-processing condition (column 5, lines 25-36).

Claim 7: Maeda discloses an image forming device with function selecting keys and at least one shortcut as in Claim 1 above, further comprising:

a. information relating to a set content of the short cut button is displayed on the initial screen (column 6, lines 31-38/Figure 8).

Claim 8: Maeda discloses an image forming device with function selecting keys and at least one shortcut as in Claim 7 above, further comprising:

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a. the set content of the short cut button is the selected function (column 6, lines 31-62).

Claim 9: Maeda discloses an image forming device with function selecting keys and at least one shortcut as in Claim 7 above, further comprising:

a. the set content of the short cut button is the image forming condition of which the setting input is performed (column 6, lines 31-62).

Claim 10: Maeda discloses an image forming device with function selecting keys and at least one shortcut as in Claim 1 above, further comprising:

a. a memory for storing screen information of a screen at a time of performing the setting input of the image forming condition (column 9, lines 29-42).

Claim 12: Maeda discloses an image forming device with function selecting keys and at least one shortcut comprising:

a. displaying an initial screen for performing function selection (column 4, lines 56-65);

b. displaying a setting screen for performing a setting input of an image forming condition by performing the function selection a plurality of times from the initial screen (column 5, lines 25-36);

c. displaying a short cut button for displaying the setting screen on the initial screen when the setting input of the image forming condition is performed on the setting screen (column 6, lines 46-62/Figure 8).

Claim 15: Maeda discloses an image forming device with function selecting keys and at least one shortcut as in Claim 12 above, further comprising:

a. information relating to a set content of the short cut button is displayed on the initial screen (column 6, lines 31-38).

Claim 16: Maeda discloses an image forming device with function selecting keys and at least one shortcut as in Claim 15 above, further comprising:

a. the set content of the short cut button is the selected function (column 6, lines 31-62).

Claim 17: Maeda discloses an image forming device with function selecting keys and at least one shortcut as in Claim 15 above, further comprising:

a. the set content of the short cut button is the image forming condition of which the setting input is performed (column 6, lines 31-62).

Claim 18: Maeda discloses an image forming device with function selecting keys and at least one shortcut as in Claim 12 above, further comprising:

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a. screen information of the setting screen at a time that the setting input of the image forming condition is performed, is stored in a memory (column 9, lines 29-42).

Claim 19: Maeda discloses an image forming device with function selecting keys and at least one shortcut as in Claim 18 above, further comprising:

a. on the initial screen, display is performed according to the screen information stored in the memory (column 9, lines 29-42).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 4-6, 11, and 13-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maeda et al. (US 2002/0136563).

Claim 4: Maeda discloses an image forming device with function selecting keys and at least one shortcut as in Claim 1 above, but does not explicitly disclose the plurality of short cut buttons are displayed in a list. However, Maeda does disclose multiple short cut buttons displayed in a vertical orientation, and it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to display multiple

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shortcuts in a list. One would have been motivated to display the shortcuts in a list in order to enable the user to set more shortcuts and display them in a compact fashion.

Claim 5: Maeda discloses an image forming device with function selecting keys and at least one shortcut as in Claim 4 above, but does not explicitly disclose the plurality of short cut buttons are displayed in a list according to a frequency of use. However, both Maeda and the applicant disclose a method intended for reducing the frequency of selecting functions by using short cut buttons, and it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that one could create shortcuts by frequent selection of functions. One would have been motivated to create a shortcut according to frequency of use in order to automatically designate shortcuts that the user may need to access in a quick manner.

Claim 6: Maeda discloses an image forming device with function selecting keys and at least one shortcut as in Claim 1 above, but does not explicitly disclose the plurality of short cut buttons are displayed in a condition that the plurality of short cut buttons are capable of being scrolled or turned over. However, Maeda discloses a touch screen (column 4, lines 45-55), which is a variation of scrolling through multiple shortcuts, and it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the user to scroll over multiple shortcuts. One would have been motivated to enable the short cut buttons to be scrolled or turned over in order to allow the user to select multiple short cut buttons.

Claim 11: Maeda discloses an image forming device with function selecting keys and at least one shortcut as in Claim 1 above, but does not explicitly disclose a read button for reading out the screen information stored in the memory is displayed on the initial screen. However, the conditions set on the screen are displayed to the user on the initial screen (Figure 1), and it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that read button could be included in the initial screen. One would have been motivated to include a read button on the initial screen in order to enable the user to easily distinguish between settings that are not set for the current operation.

Claim 13: Maeda discloses an image forming device with function selecting keys and at least one shortcut as in Claim 12 above, but does not explicitly disclose the short cut buttons are displayed in a list. However, Maeda does disclose multiple short cut buttons displayed in a vertical orientation (Figure 2), and it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to display multiple shortcuts in a list. One would have been motivated to display the shortcuts in a list in order to enable the user to set more shortcuts and display them in a compact fashion.

Claim 14: Maeda discloses an image forming device with function selecting keys and at least one shortcut as in Claim 12 above, but does not explicitly disclose an area where the short cut button is displayed, is displayed in a condition that the area is capable of

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being scrolled or turned over. However, Maeda discloses a touch screen (column 4, 45-55), which is a variation of scrolling through multiple shortcuts, and it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the user to scroll over multiple shortcuts. One would have been motivated to enable the short cut buttons to be scrolled or turned over in order to allow the user to select multiple short cut buttons.

Conclusion

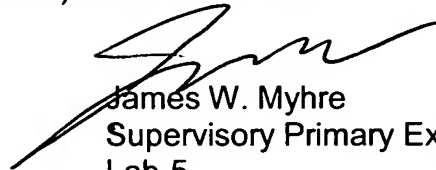
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Omar Abdul-Ali whose telephone number is 571-270-1694. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri(Alternate Fridays Off) 7:30 - 5:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Myhre can be reached on 571-270-1065. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

OAA
03/05/07



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